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*Thomas J. Burger* 6/23/04  
Thomas J. Burger, Reg. No. 32,662 Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial No.: 10/687,857  
Filed: October 17, 2003  
Applicants: James L. Day and Donald A. Lincoln  
Title: Skull Clamp With Load Distribution Indicators

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

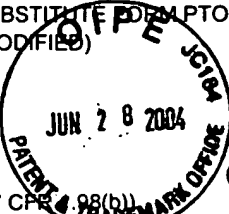
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § § 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, relative to the above-identified patent application, applicant calls to the attention of the United States Patent and Trademark office the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the cited references are enclosed herewith.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references, either individually or in combination, neither disclose nor render obvious the subject matter claimed in the present application. Nevertheless, applicant submits this material so that the examiner may make an independent determination of its materiality, if any.

Respectfully submitted,  
WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

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|---|--|--|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449<br>(MODIFIED)  |  | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE |  | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>OHM/94E     | SERIAL NO.<br>10/687,857 |
|  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT<br>(Use several sheets if necessary) |  |  |  | APPLICANT<br>Day et al.         |                          |
|   |  |  |  | FILING DATE<br>October 17, 2003 | GROUP<br>3731            |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |     | PATENT NUMBER |   |   |   |   |   |   | ISSUE<br>DATE | PATENTEE             | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|-----|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------------|----------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                     | A.A | 2             | 3 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 10/1945       | W.L. Mermis          |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.B | 2             | 9 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 3 | 12/1960       | C.H. Boetcker et al. |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.C | 3             | 0 | 9 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 07/1963       | E.F. Ries            |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.D | 3             | 8 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 09/1974       | Kees, Jr. et al.     |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.E | 4             | 1 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 08/1978       | Lindstroem et al.    |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.F | 4             | 1 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 10/1979       | Hickmann             |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.G | 4             | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 10/1985       | Day                  |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.H | 5             | 1 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 03/1993       | Cherry et al.        |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.I | 5             | 2 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 9 | 10/1993       | Agbodoe et al        |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.J | 5             | 2 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 12/1993       | Day et al.           |       |          |                               |
|                     | A.K | 5             | 2 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 01/1994       | Day                  |       |          |                               |

## FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

|  |     | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | PUBLICATION<br>DATE | COUNTRY OR<br>PATENT OFFICE | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>(YES/NO) |
|--|-----|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------|
|  | A.L | WO 0065900A1       | 11/2000             | PCT                         |       |          |                         |
|  | A.M |                    |                     |                             |       |          |                         |
|  | A.N |                    |                     |                             |       |          |                         |
|  | A.O |                    |                     |                             |       |          |                         |
|  | A.P |                    |                     |                             |       |          |                         |
|  | A.Q |                    |                     |                             |       |          |                         |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

|  |     |  |
|--|-----|--|
|  | A.R |  |
|  | A.S |  |
|  | A.T |  |

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not in conformance. Draw line through citation only if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

|  |     |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|--|-----|--|---|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|----------|-------------------------------|--|
| SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449<br>(MODIFIED)   |     | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE |   | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>OHM/94E     |   | SERIAL NO.<br>10/687,857 |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary)  |     |  |   | APPLICANT<br>Day et al.         |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  |     |  |   | FILING DATE<br>October 17, 2003 |   | GROUP<br>3731            |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |     |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL  |     | PATENT NUMBER  |   |                                 |   |                          |   | ISSUE<br>DATE       | PATENTEE                    | CLASS      | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |  |
|  | B.A | 5  | 5 | 3                               | 7 | 7                        | 0 | 4                   | 07/1996                     | Dinkler    |          |                               |  |
|  | B.B | 5  | 5 | 6                               | 0 | 7                        | 2 | 8                   | 10/1996                     | McFadden   |          |                               |  |
|  | B.C | 6  | 6 | 2                               | 9 | 9                        | 8 | 2                   | 10/2003                     | Day et al. |          |                               |  |
|  | B.D | D  | 4 | 1                               | 3 | 9                        | 7 | 6                   | 09/1999                     | Dinkler    |          |                               |  |
|  | B.E |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.F |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.G |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.H |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.I |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.J |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.K |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
| FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS   |     |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  |     | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER   |   |                                 |   |                          |   | PUBLICATION<br>DATE | COUNTRY OR<br>PATENT OFFICE | CLASS      | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>(YES/NO)       |  |
|  | B.L |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.M |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.N |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.O |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.P |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.Q |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)  |     |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.R |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.S |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
|  | B.T |  |   |                                 |   |                          |   |                     |                             |            |          |                               |  |
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